# meet the mayor

# South Beaverton NAC

Thursday, March 19, 2009

Thank you for coming out and sharing your thoughts and ideas about Beaverton's future with me at your NAC meeting. You'll find the topics that we discussed, your feedback and any follow-up below. Of course, my door is always open and I look forward to hearing more from you. My email address is mayormail@ci.beaverton.or.us or you can reach me at (503) 526-3700.

- Mayor Denny Doyle

**Note to reader:** These notes reflect the questions and concerns this neighborhood raised during our Meet the Mayor Meeting on Thursday, March 19, 2009. They will not be updated in real time and do not necessarily reflect the current status of the issues addressed. For the most current information please visit the South Beaverton NAC's monthly meeting minutes.

#### HERE'S WHAT WE DISCUSSED...

- **Building relationships within our community**: It's so important to have strong relationships with our regional partners and local businesses. Building more community involvement is an important starting point, I encourage you to volunteer or join a City board or commission.
- **Diversity in our community**: One of my top priorities is to celebrate, integrate, challenge, involve and include everyone that makes up our diverse community. Dozens of local cultural leaders recently attended the first-ever Beaverton Multi-cultural Leadership Forum.
- The economy: Our budget has been and continues to be in pretty good shape, but we need to plan for the future and we owe it to our residents to be prudent. I've already set put in place constraints to make sure our budget stays healthy. In addition, we're working with local service organizations to make sure they have the resources they need to take care of the hungry in our community. I'll be asking for your help to make that happen.
- Bringing family wage jobs to Beaverton: We'll be focusing on bringing more family wage jobs
  to Beaverton by actively seeking out business development opportunities such as companies
  that are complementary to larger nearby manufacturers, green businesses that are a good
  fit within our community and niche businesses that build upon our strengths. I'm committed
  to balancing the needs of business with those of the community.
- Planning for the future: We need to make sure we have a plan, whether for 10 or 20 or even 30 years, to revitalize our commercial centers and to accommodate anticipated growth here in Beaverton. The Beaverton Community Vision is now on track to deliver that plan, which was created through public input, at the beginning of next year. Urban renewal is one tool we can use to make that happen.

## FOLLOW-UP: THE ANSWERS TO YOUR QUESTIONS...

- What is Beaverton's downtown?
  - Beaverton Bakery



- Washington Square
- Traffic
- Tired
- Confusing
- Lacks character
- Use Lake Oswego as a model
- What about Old Town and The Round?
  - -Needs a pedestrian bridge to Cedar Hills Crossing
  - -More pedestrian connections are needed to connect Old Town, Transit (i.e. the MAX station and bus lines) and The Round
- Important to fulfill promises of any plans that are developed for downtown
- Partner with the landowners better
- Better connections to the MAX
- Obtain more transportation dollars from the state and federal government Mayor would like to use urban renewal funds to develop downtown and increase pedestrian friendliness

#### • What do you consider your shopping are in South Beaverton?

- Trader Joes and Haggens
- All over Washington County
- No specific area
- Usually stay local
- Area lacks local entertainment
- Book store needed
- Library needed
- Internet search engines should have more Beaverton businesses listed

# What changes would you like to see in your neighborhood?

- Return of Greenwood Inn
- Bicycle friendly streets
- Licensing/education for bicyclists
- Five year plan for more events
- More entertainment in Beaverton
- Have more multicultural events
- Bring back summer concert at Griffith Park
- Make Westgate into a farmer's market/ Saturday Market type site during good weather months
- Larger area for farmer's market
- Combine events
- Increase parking at MAX stations
- Concerts combined with diversity festival

#### • Should we invest in the arts?

- Create open venues for various types of artwork
- Display artwork from schools
- Consult with businesses and work with them more



- South side of Farmington should be a priority
- Leverage funds through the Neighborhood Program for the arts (i.e. Matching Funds)
- Any arts facility should be multi-use

### • Questions and additional comments from the NAC membership:

- More neighborhood involvement
- Increased education and outreach to encourage citizens to get more involved—
   Put the information on "Hands on Portland" Web site
- Mark City programs viewable on cable (i.e. a Beaverton Channel)
- Use blogs
- Clarify how the stimulus dollars are being split up and used in the City and County

